

# VIII. PUBLIC

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION  
FEDERAL ASSURANCE POLICY**

It shall be the policy of each LEA that public hearings, adequate notice of the hearing, and an opportunity for comment available to the general public, including individuals with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities, are held prior to the adoption of any policies and/or regulations needed to comply with Part B of the IDEA.

*Legal Reference:*

*20 USC 1412 (a)(19)*

Approved by Governing Council on October 12, 2007

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION  
STATE REQUIRED POLICY**

It shall be the policy of the San Luis Obispo County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) that members of the public, including parents or guardians of students with disabilities, may address questions or concerns about the Local Plan to the governing boards of the LEAs, SELPA committees, or the SELPA director.

*Legal Reference:*

*EC 47640-47647*

*EC 56001 (f)*

*EC 56190-4*

*EC 56195.1 (b)(c)*

*EC 56195.3*

*EC 56195.9*

*EC 56205(a)(12)(A)*

*EC 56205(a)(12)(D)(i-ii)*

*EC 56205 (b)(4)(5)*

*20 USC 1412 (a)*

*20 USC 1413 (a)(1)*

*20 USC 1413 (a)(5)*

Approved by Governing Council on June 18, 2004

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PRIOR TO THE ADOPTION OF  
POLICIES/REGULATIONS REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH PART B OF IDEA  
LOCAL POLICY**

It is the agreement of the members of the SELPA that parents of students with disabilities and the general public shall be provided with the opportunity for comment concerning items on the agenda of the following SELPA Councils/ Committees:

1. Governance Council
2. Executive Committee
3. Community Advisory Committee

The makeup, role, and function of the above groups are defined in the governance section of the Local Plan. Meetings held by these groups shall be considered Brown Act meetings in reference to the requirements for holding public hearing, providing adequate notice, and providing an opportunity for comment from the general public.

Approved by Governing Council on October 12, 2007

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)  
STATE REQUIRED POLICY**

56205(a)(12)(C)

The San Luis Obispo County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is comprised of parents of children with disabilities enrolled in public or nonpublic schools within the San Luis Obispo County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) and may include students and adults with disabilities, regular and special educators, and other school personnel within the SELPA, representatives of other public and nonpublic agencies, and individuals interested in the education of children with disabilities.

The school boards of the participating Local Education Agencies (LEAs) shall appoint one or more members to the CAC. The appointed members are responsible to the Governing Board of each LEA. The Governing Council, upon recommendation by the Special Education Operations Committee (SEOC), shall establish policies for the operation of the CAC. The CAC serves the SELPA in an advisory capacity, in accordance with Education Code 56190-56194 and procedures specified in the SELPA Procedures Handbook.

The CAC provides reports on its activities to their local district boards by providing copies of its minutes to the Governing Council and the Special Education Operations Committee (SEOC). Regularly scheduled meetings are held to help members keep well informed regarding programs and legislation for children with disabilities, and to foster closer communication with school administrators, educators, parents and community. The CAC will advise and inform SELPA staff regarding community conditions, aspirations and goals for children with disabilities.

The specific responsibilities of CAC are defined in Education Code 56194. These include, but are not limited to:

- Participate in the development and review of the Local Plan and encourage community involvement related to the Local Plan
- Recommend annual priorities that are addressed by the plan
- Assist in parent education and in recruitment of parents and other volunteers who may contribute to the implementation of the plan
- Encourage community involvement in the development and review of the Local Plan
- Support activities on behalf of children with disabilities
- Assist in parent awareness of the importance of regular school attendance

Approved by Governing Council on June 17, 2005

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)  
STATE REQUIRED ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

The Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) will ensure that current CAC By-Laws are maintained.

Approved by Governing Council on June 17, 2005

**CAC BY-LAWS**  
*(see insert)*